

R E M A R K S

Claims 1 through 12, 18 through 24, 26, and 45 through 47 are in the application, with Claims 1 through 12, 18 through 24, 26, and 45 through 47 having been amended, with Claims 13 through 17, 25, 27 through 44, and Claims 48 through 50 having been cancelled. Claims 1, 45, and 47 are the independent claims herein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Objections

The specification has been amended to address the issues and informalities noted in the office action. Withdrawal of the objections to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Office Action requires the addition of the legend "Prior Art" to FIG. 6. Applicants respectfully traverse this objection because FIG. 6 illustrates some embodiments of the pending claims. For example, system 200 of FIG. 6 may embody claim 47, which relates to a system for providing notification of a user information collection level. Withdrawal of the objections to the drawings and the related requirement are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 through 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,314,409 ("Schneck"). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 45, and 47

Amended independent claim 1 recites a method for a web server. The method includes determination of a plurality of user information collection levels that may be implemented by the web server where each user information collection level relates to a type of data that may be collected from or about a prospective user during a future interaction between the prospective user and the web server. In addition, a request for the web page is received from a user, the request including an indication of one or more of user information collection levels that are

acceptable to the user. One user information collection level of the plurality of levels is determined based on the indication of the one or more information collection levels that are acceptable to the user. Next, the requested web page is provided to the user, the web page including a notification of the determined user information collection level.

The art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest the above features of claim 1. In particular, the art of record is not seen to disclose or suggest determining a plurality of user information collection levels wherein each user information collection level relates to a type of data that may be collected from or about a prospective user during a future interaction between the prospective user and a web server, determining one user information collection level of the plurality of levels based on an indication of information collection levels that are acceptable to a user, and providing a notification of the determined user information collection level to the user.

Schneck describes a method and device for controlling access to data. In particular, an access mechanism 114 enables a user 104 to access data 106 based on rules stored in rules source 116. In particular, the access rules may specify how data (e.g., a digital book) may be altered and/or packaged for security purposes prior to distribution to the user 104. The rules are specified by an owner of the data, and different ones of the rules may be applicable to different users. Schneck therefore cannot be seen to disclose or suggest any user information collection level relating to a type of data that may be collected from or about a prospective user during a future interaction between the prospective user and a web server.

Accordingly, Schneck also cannot be seen to disclose or suggest determining a plurality of user information collection levels, determining one user information collection level of the plurality of levels based on an indication of information collection levels that are acceptable to a user, and providing a notification of the determined user information collection level to the user.

In view of the foregoing, amended independent claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 2 through 12, 18 through 24, and 26 depend from claim 1 and are therefore also believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

Amended independent claims 45 and 47 relate to a computer program and a system respectively, in which a plurality of user information collection levels are determined. Each user information collection level relates to a type of data that may be collected from or about a prospective user during a future interaction between the prospective user and a web server. One user information collection level of the plurality of levels is determined based on the indication

of information collection levels that are acceptable to a user and a notification of the determined user information level is provided.

Accordingly, for at least those reasons provided above with respect to claim 1, amended independent claims 45 and 47 and their respective dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

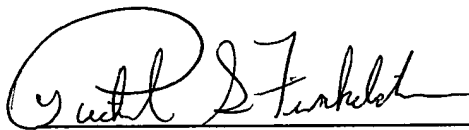
CONCLUSION

The outstanding Office Action presents a number of characterizations regarding the applied references, some of which are not directly addressed herein because they are not related to the rejections of the independent claims. Applicants do not necessarily agree with the characterizations and reserve the right to further discuss those characterizations.

For at least the reasons given above, it is submitted that the entire application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. Alternatively, if there remains any question regarding the present application or any of the cited references, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-4981.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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